

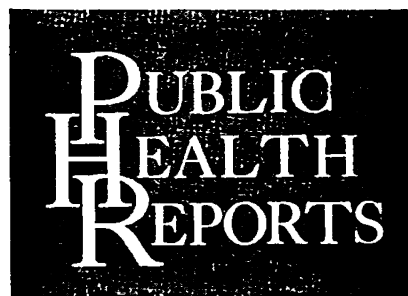


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**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE**

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## Grants and Fellowships for Research in Nursing

Since 1955, when the Nursing Research Grants and Fellowships Branch was established within the Division of Nursing Resources, 80 grants have been awarded by the Public Health Service for extramural nursing research, representing a national investment of \$3¼ million to improve patient care. In addition, 80 nurses have received full-time fellowships for research training and more than 100 have received part-time awards. Investment to improve the research skills of nurses has exceeded a half-million dollars.

Extramural nursing studies supported thus far relate to all facets of nursing practice, as well as to nursing education, interpersonal relationships affecting patient welfare, and administration of nursing services.

Nursing research is multidisciplinary. A good half of the principal investigators have been nurses, while social scientists have run a strong second. The roster of principal investigators includes also physicians, educators, engineers, and hospital administrators.

Responsibility for the nursing research grants and fellowships program is shared by the Division of Nursing Resources, Bureau of Medical Services, and the Division of General Medical Sciences, National Institutes of Health. The consultative services of the Research Grants and Fellowships Branch, Division of Nursing Resources, are in continuous demand throughout the country. Consultation has been provided on kinds of research needed and on formulation of research projects. Also, effort is made to locate qualified potential research investigators and facilities for research training. The Division of General Medical Sciences administers the grant funds.

Applications for nursing research grants are considered first by the National Institutes of Health Nursing Research Study Section and then by the National Advisory Health Council. Following recommendation by the council, the Surgeon General makes awards. Deciding factors in selection of investigators are quali-

fications for independent inquiry, significance of inquiry, soundness of research plan, and adequacy of research facilities at the project site.

Nurse research fellowships prepare nurses to participate in research or to stimulate and guide research in nursing. In the shared responsibility for nurse research fellowships, the Division of Nursing Resources sets guidelines for the support of research training. The Division of General Medical Sciences arranges for fellowship application review by the Public Health Service's Nurse Research Fellowship Board and administers the fellowship funds.

All full-time nurse fellowships at present are special predoctoral fellowships, with stipends set according to individual estimate of living and educational expenses. Both men and women are eligible for stipends. The average age of fellows at this time is 39.

Of the 40 fellows now enrolled in 19 different universities, half are majoring in the behavioral and social sciences, a third in education, and a number of others in biological and physical science.

The Surgeon General awards fellowships for research training upon the recommendation of the Nurse Research Fellowship Board. Selection of candidates is made on the basis of their background and career plans, their depth of research interest, and their demonstrated potential for independent investigation.

Nurses who are enrolled full time in university programs and who are interested in part-time awards for research activity should be referred directly to the deans of their schools.

Other applications, either for research grants or for special predoctoral fellowships in nursing research, should be directed to the Division of Nursing Resources, Public Health Service, U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Washington 25, D.C.—*APOLLONIA O. ADAMS, R.N., M.A., chief, Division of Nursing Resources, Public Health Service.*